

This constitutes the second confirmed record of Forbes's Plover in the Gambia<sup>1</sup>.

## Acknowledgements

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# Red-necked Nightjar *Caprimulgus ruficollis*, new to Burkina Faso

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La nuit du 15 mars 2001 a été observé au Ranch de gibier de Nazinga (c11°10'N 01°35'W) au sud du Burkina Faso, un engoulement inhabituel pour la région. Une description de l'oiseau et du biotope sont données. Identifié comme Engoulement à collier roux *Caprimulgus ruficollis*, il s'agit de la première mention connue de ce migrateur paléarctique pour le Burkina Faso.

**O**n the evening of 15 March 2001, I observed an unfamiliar nightjar c2 km east of the tourist campground at Nazinga Game Ranch (c11°10'N 01°35'W), in Burkina Faso, 200 km south of Ouagadougou on the Ghana border. It was resting in the centre of a dirt road, where I observed it in the beam of my car headlights, approaching it to within 10 m to examine its plumage in detail through binoculars. It flew off after c30 seconds and was not seen again.

A large, grey-brown nightjar, it was noticeably larger than Standard-winged *Macrodipteryx longipennis* and Long-tailed Nightjars *Caprimulgus climacurus*, both common at Nazinga, with a broad rufous hindneck collar, brighter than on Standard-winged Nightjar. A white malar stripe reached the ear-coverts and there was a conspicuous, large white throat patch. Buff tips to the scapulars and upper wing-coverts formed 4–5 contrasting pale bars. The tail was fairly long, square ended and barred, extending well beyond the wingtips. In flight, it had white patches near the wingtips, on the outer primaries, and broad white tips to the outertail feathers.

It readily differed from the four nightjar species previously known from the ranch. Apart from its smaller size, Standard-winged Nightjar differs in its less contrasting plumage markings and much shorter tail. Long-tailed

Nightjar was excluded by its small size and long, graduated tail. Plain Nightjar *Caprimulgus inornatus* has very different, pale and plain overall coloration, whereas Freckled Nightjar *C. tristigma* is overall much darker. The wing and tail patches excluded a possible vagrant Pennant-winged Nightjar *Macrodipteryx vexillarius*. It also differed from European Nightjar *C. europaeus* in having a larger white throat patch, more spotted wing-coverts, a diagnostic rufous nuchal collar, paler and more variegated plumage, with no dark grey/black coloration on the shoulders. I therefore identified it as a male Red-necked Nightjar *C. ruficollis*, probably of the nominate form.

Vegetation at Nazinga is dominated by shrub and tree savannas (Northern Guinea Savanna), with *Vitellaria paradoxa* and *Combretum glutinosum*, patches of wooded savanna (*Isobertinia doka*, *Azzeria africana*, *Anogeissus leiocarpus*) and some riparian forest along major drainage channels. Climate is characterised by annual rainfall of c1,000 mm and a six-month dry season.

Red-necked Nightjar is a rare to uncommon Palearctic winter visitor in West Africa, known from Mauritania, north Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Liberia, north Côte d'Ivoire and north Ghana<sup>1</sup>, and, most recently, north-east Nigeria<sup>5</sup>. Though Burkina Faso is included in

distribution maps in Fry *et al*<sup>1</sup> and Cleere & Nurney<sup>2</sup>, no records can be traced<sup>3</sup> and this appears to be the first documented record in the country. As I did not see it again, despite my continued presence at the site, regularly driving tracks at night, it may have been a passage migrant.

## Acknowledgement

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# Ansorge's Greenbul *Andropadus ansorgei*, new to Uganda

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Les auteurs rapportent la découverte du Bulbul d'Ansorge *Andropadus ansorgei* en Ouganda. Bien que la présence de l'espèce dans le Parc National de Bwindi est soupçonnée depuis 1992, lorsque les vocalisations caractéristiques de l'espèce furent entendues pour la première fois, ce n'est qu'en août 2001 que ceci a pu être confirmé par l'observation visuelle d'un oiseau répondant vigoureusement à la repasse de son chant. L'espèce, qui peut facilement être confondue avec le Bulbul gracile *A. gracilis*, est probablement commune dans le parc.

On 12 November 1992, RD, Lincoln Fishpool and John Miskell heard the typical rattling call of Ansorge's Greenbul *Andropadus ansorgei* at Kitahurira, Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, west Uganda. A small greenbul was briefly seen in the upper mid-level of the forest edge but its underparts coloration could not be ascertained. On plumage characters alone, it therefore could not be separated from the very similar and locally not uncommon Little Grey Greenbul *A. gracilis*. However, as the dry rattle is, in the observers' field experience, never made by Little Grey Greenbul, RD and LF were certain of the identification, being familiar with both species' vocalisations from elsewhere in Africa, especially Yapo Forest, Côte d'Ivoire. They were aware that Ansorge's Greenbul was not on the Bwindi<sup>5</sup> or even the Uganda list<sup>2,7</sup> but, as good views had not been obtained, preferred to await further evidence before claiming an addition to the country's avifauna.

On 4 August 1999 NB observed several small greenbuls resembling *A. ansorgei* and making the dry rattling call in the mid-canopy along the main track at Buhoma, Bwindi. However, as he knew that only *A. gracilis* had been recorded in Uganda, he speculated that the rattle ascribed to *ansorgei* by Fishpool *et al*<sup>1</sup> was perhaps also made by *gracilis*. Cameroon Sombre Greenbul *A. curvirostris* was excluded by its larger size, plainer appearance, less obvious broken eye-ring and its vocalisations, which also include a rattle

that is, however, much shorter and muted. The statement in Zimmerman *et al*<sup>1</sup> that *gracilis* has a 'pale brown' vent further confused NB, as this did not match his West African experience of the species. Though Keith *et al*<sup>1</sup> also state that *A. gracilis* has 'pale-brown undertail-coverts', examination of skins at the Natural History Museum (Tring) revealed that these are better described as yellow-ochre, merging into yellow on the belly, whereas in both races of *A. ansorgei* (n nominate and *kavirondensis*) the ginger-coloured undertail-coverts and flanks surround the greyish belly, with no hint of yellow in the plumage. Skins of *A. g. gracilis* and *extrema*, the races occurring in West Africa, and of *A. g. ugandae*, known from the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo to west Kenya, were very much alike, without plumage differences that would be noticeable in the field and all having a yellowish vent and belly.

On 2 August 2001 NB again heard the dry rattle along the main track at Buhoma and briefly saw two birds with the gingery vent and flanks typical of *ansorgei*, but they rapidly departed and did not respond to playback of a recording of the rattle made by Chappuis<sup>3</sup> in Cameroon. In addition to the dry rattle, *A. ansorgei* also produces a distinctive three-note whistle. NB later heard this whistle and the vocalising bird responded vigorously to playback of an identical recording, made by Chappuis<sup>3</sup>, coming directly to the source of the sound and affording excellent views. The lack of yellow on the underparts and the